

## Vernonia Ordinances

### ORDINANCE NO. 897

#### **An ordinance amending Ordinance 895 pertaining to prescription of rules and regulations for the conduct and management of the Water Department of the City of Vernonia and Declaring an Emergency**

WHEREAS, the City has established that regulation of certain water use, manner of certain water use, and charges for certain uses, be amended;

WHEREAS, the City has established that clarification of language is necessary to explain the changes proposed by Ordinance No.895;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF VERNONIA ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Ordinance 895 is amended as follows [additions in underline and deletions in ~~strikeout~~]:

**Section 4. [Responsible for Utility Charges]** Responsibility for payment of city utility charges and all fees assessed shall be that of the person who owns the property, owner of record. The responsibility for payment to the City does not pass to the tenant or other occupants, notwithstanding the fact that tenants or other occupants may be required by the property owner to pay the charges provided in Section 5. The owner shall co-sign the utility application and shall be responsible for the utility bill when the utility bill is not paid by the tenant in a timely manner. The City shall provide information to the owner regarding the status of a tenant's account upon request. The execution of a service application shall constitute the owner's consent to such responsibility. (ORS 91.255)

4.1. Accounts that are currently considered "Inactive" and accounts that are currently charged by gallons of water used, will be no longer charged the \$5.00/month fee (Inactive), or the \$4.25/gal fee (per gallon use). Instead these accounts will be charged a base rate (either a water base rate, or a water/sewer base rate) depending on the nature of their account.

4.2. Accounts that are currently considered "Temporary Vacancy" / "Stand By" and that are currently charged a \$5.00/month fee during their time of vacancy, will be no longer charged the \$5.00/month fee. Instead these accounts will have the option to:

- A. Either pay a "Shut Off" and "Turn On" fee for the time of vacancy, or;
- B. Pay a monthly base rate during their time of vacancy

**Emergency Clause:** This ordinance being necessary for the health, safety and welfare, shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**Recorder's Duties:** The City Recorder is hereby directed, upon its adoption and authentication, to number this ordinance as the next adopted ordinance of the City of Vernonia.

Read for the first time by title only this \_\_\_\_\_ day of, \_\_\_\_\_, 2014

Read for the second time by title only and passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of, \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_, Nays: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

This ordinance will become effective upon adoption.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Josette M. Mitchell, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joann M Glass, City Recorder